


THE ENQUIRER-SOUTHERNER.
E. R. STAMPS, Editor.
TARBORO, N. C.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1874



THE NEW YEAR.
The old year with all its associations, all its incidents, all its joys, all its sorrows, all its changes, has gone and is known no more, same as a cycle in the history of the past, and the new year with all its anticipations, all its responsibilities and its duties, has burst upon us as the morn when awaketh. We stand upon the brink of the one and look back upon its struggles and toils, and gaze wistfully into the mazy future of the other with a dreadful anticipation of the burdens it brings, buoyed by hope yet hesitating to again encounter the rough passes where the feet well nigh slipped, lest the firm nerve may falter and the strong arm yield and life be wasted.

The first of the year perhaps brings commingled emotions to each one of us. We realize that another measure of the woof of life has been woven, and when we examine its texture there are too many evidences of bad workmanship for us to contemplate the work with entire complacency. There are points where duty has been neglected, where passion has mastered reason, where opportunities have been wasted, and where the milk of humanity has flowed sparingly to the relief of suffering or for the administration of that charity which seeketh not its own but another's weal. Such feelings are generally associated with deprecations of our faults and determinations to improve the future, and each individual "turns down a new leaf" on the 1st of January and sets out upon the new year laden with good resolutions, that are too often cast aside during the first month of the journey. The man determines to be a better man and a better citizen, and perhaps for a short while his worthy course is such as to elicit admiring landations from his associates, but in most of cases it amounts to a delusion, and February finds that the leaf turned down was but a page of the same book passed over during the preceding year. In fact so universal is the intention to reform on the first of the year, that it has become a matter of will authenticated statistics that there is less liquor and tobacco used and more economy practiced during the first two weeks in January, than any other period of the same length in the year.

The year 1873, in certain aspects, does not commence its course under brilliant auspices. The political skies may have brighter hues than those that marked the ushering in of the last year, but upon the dawn hangs a cloud that effects society for the time more deeply than abstract questions as to forms of government. Finance and commerce, the basis of our social system, are not in such a state as promise great prosperity for the coming year. There is a want of mutual confidence and an unhealthiness in trade that betokens a close and unstable condition of affairs, and enjoins the utmost prudence and sagacity in the conduct of business.

It is well then to stop a moment and take a calm survey of the past, and speculate upon future prospects, before entering into the business of another year. Think of the peculiar circumstances that surround the close of the old and the opening of the new year and act with discretion and economy.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.
The annual report of the Librarian of Congress exhibits the fact that 12,407 volumes have been added to the collection during the year closing December 1st. The aggregate number of books now in the library is 253,752 volumes, besides about 50,000 pamphlets. In the copy-right department there have been 15,352 entries made during the year, and the Librarian has paid into the Treasury the sum of \$13,404.30 as the receipts from copyright fees. This exceeds the entries of the year preceding by about ten per cent.

The Librarian reports the accessions to the library as unusually valuable, including an almost complete set of the County Histories of England, purchased in London, and very important, as throwing light upon the history and genealogy of thousands of American families.

THE PRESS.
In a recent speech in Congress B. F. Butler, better known as the Beast, took occasion to denounce the Press of the country in a most scurrilous style. He laughed to scorn the timid and over-conscientious Congressmen, who have allowed the denunciations of the Press to draw from their pockets their ill-gotten gain and empty it again into the government treasury. But this very argument upon the subject showed the folly of his opinions. It illustrated the fact that there was indeed a power in the instrument that could cause avaricious Congressmen to disgorge, and that Butler himself felt the force of it. In fact his very bitterness belied his logic. He had not forgotten how odious his name had been rendered in American history through the instrumentality of the public press, nor what a mighty engine it was in thwarting his ambitious political schemes last summer. It is natural enough for this man, whose very expression indicates the sensuality of his disposition and whose public acts have shown his heart to be the home of the Devil, to hate the means by which his infamy has been rendered notorious, but for him to affect to despise its influence while burning under its blows is simply ridiculous.

People whose private characters and public conduct have been above reproach, and who have never felt, but seen, the power exerted by the Press of the United States, are doubtless better and more impartial judges of its efficiency, than those whose public histories have been so notoriously infamous as to bring upon them the most severe animadversions of the subjects whose merits they are to try. Rev. Dr. Stone of San Francisco, who gives credit to the press for exciting a healthful and beneficial influence in public and private affairs. He says:

"The newspaper is more feared today in Congressional halls and the high places of corruption and villainy than laws and courts, the stings of conscience and the thunders of Divine wrath. God is a great way off, and the judgment waits; but the ubiquitous reporter thrusts his sharp gaze into all overt and hidden schemes, an unerring detective. The pestilent spy will tell all he sees, tell it on the house-tops, print for a nation of readers. Good! Give us more of this! Long live the reporter! Let every public man who meditates a little piece of gainful fraud understand he is 'shadowed' at each step by this uncouth espionage, and though he may not be converted, he will be restrained."

But while the strictures of the Honorable (heaven save the mark!) Congressmen are refuted by their own assertions, it is doubtless true that the Press of the country has rendered itself liable, by the position it has taken in regard to that portion of the Salary bill by which the system of free exchanges was discontinued. It has generally clamored as loudly at the act that imposed a small additional expense upon it as that by which the Congressmen's depleted pockets were filled out of the governmental treasury. This has indeed been a shame to us, and has done much to counteract the utterings against the Back Pay Steal. That paper had better pie its type and close its doors, whose impetuosity renders its sentiments so cheap. If the Press of the country would exercise a fearless and manly criticism without licentiousness, and keep within its proper sphere, it would prove a power that would rid the Congressional halls of all such vermin as Butler, the Beast.

FINANCIAL.
The New York Journal of Commerce, which is the best financial authority in the country, expresses itself thus rationally and forcibly with respect to the monetary situation:

A return to specie payment would place all the financial interests of the country upon a better footing, but we need not speak of this, as no one is in favor of it. The most clamorous for specie payments, theoretically, even among our most substantial citizens, will not suffer a moment from the spasm that threatens to result in such a consummation, but the instant they feel it will cry out for relief on the side that leads further and further from it.

The next best measure would be a weekly central par redemption for national bank notes, but this could only be done under national authority and by government hands. The only restriction which we consider practicable at present is the prohibition of interest on deposits and the repeal of the usury laws. The first would prevent in a great measure the use of deposits as loans to borrowers who cannot return them on demand, and the last would draw from all parts of the world a capital that would take the place of such loans and carry forward the enterprises now languishing for want of funds.

"Mr. Jdtfst does business in Cleveland." Happy to hear it. We hope Mr. — whatshisname success.

SCENES AT WASHINGTON.
When we compare the scenes that are constantly recurring in our national capital with those of a half century ago, the stupidity in high places, the corruption and fraud that seem to mark nearly every branch of the government and the apparently utter abandonment of principle and correct notions of honor, we blush for the baseness of our generation and sigh for the pure and simple days of the past. It is true, as Cicero observes in his *De Senectute*, and in fact which has been so often remarked that it has become an aphorism, that we are prone to venerate the ancients and to depreciate our time, esteeming it a great degeneracy from the century preceding it. But we think an analysis of prevailing customs of officials of this age, and a comparison of their conduct with that of politicians of fifty years ago, will show that there is reality in the assertion that official corruption is alarmingly prevalent. Grant as President, Williams as Chief Justice and Butler & Co., ruling spirits in Congress, bear a pitiable contrast to the times when such luminaries as the South Carolina Galaxy shown in our national legislative halls, when the ermine was upon the person of the great Marshall and when Jefferson and Adams sat in the chair of the chief executive.

The alleged fraud of Gen. Howard, in the Freedmen's Bureau, is a fit type of the venality of the times. Here is a man, esteemed at the North for his upright religious character, who sinks to the level of a common swindler and barter's his honor for gold. Of Howard's complicity in the fraud there seems to be but little doubt, a prominent army officer, who has investigated his accounts, having expressed the opinion that the real extent of his criminality would become more evident and incontrovertible as the investigation proceeded.

Civil Service reform has become another libelous burlesque at Washington. The only qualification to office is strong partisanship and old fashioned economy in the various departments is unknown. As an instance of the latter we cite one case. One of the secretaries, anxious to do his part towards the curtailment of the expenditures of his department, gave orders not to have the usual number of visiting cards printed for New Year's and charged to the "stationary account." He then told his chief clerk to have six packs of blank visiting cards purchased and to have a clerk, who writes a handsome hand, write on each, "The Secretary of," with the remainder of his official title. This is "retrenchment and reform."

The recent debates in Congress over the Back Pay, and scurrilous abuses of members for each other, at a time too when the nation is groaning under a financial panic and the people are looking to Congress for relief, are a commentary, that needs no elaboration, upon the policies of the age.

Thus we might go on and mention other cases which tend to show how universal are the ignorance and venality of officers in high places, but they are too well known to require repetition.

When the student of history in after years turns to the page we are now writing, he may perhaps pronounce it the golden age, not surely because of the greatness of its sons or the purity of its language, but from the deity who rules the period. For gold this age seems willing to sell honor, principle and every noble quality of our natures.

The committee appointed at the late so-called workmen's meeting at Cooper Institute, waited on Commissioner Van Nort Friday and presented a letter demanding work, or pay for the same, for those in enforced idleness, which was brought about by the Government sanctioning the speculations in our circulating medium. They also demanded that the work should be furnished direct to them, abrogating all contracts, and demand a speedy answer in writing. The Commissioner said he would send them an answer.

The Judiciary Committee of the Senate have examined three witnesses regarding Attorney General Williams—Messrs. Hill and Falls, of the Attorney General's office, and Representative Nesmith. The impression is growing that the nomination will die in the committee unless the Senate orders them to report. The situation is awkward.

GENERAL HOWARD.
The statement has been made that General Howard objects that there are three ex-Confederates on the House Military Committee, and his case has been referred. The Chicago Tribune, a Republican journal, says, with some force, that "it is difficult to understand why a former attachment to the Confederacy, which has been formally forgiven, should disqualify an otherwise intelligent man from judging whether there was a defalcation in General Howard's bureau or not, and who is responsible for it." Howard is thoroughly Pecksniffian, and knows too well the baseness of his own character to expect genuine virtue in any one else.

Whoever the king of Old Calabar may be, he has an emphatic way of expressing himself, as, for instance, in his proclamation for the observance of Sunday, that "henceforth on God's day no market is to be held in any part of the Duke Town territory, no sale of strong drink, no work, no play, no devil-making, no firing of guns, no processions." In consequence, the church and school room there have been filled to overflowing ever since. It would be well if some of our authorities would follow the example of this potentate.

OUR NEW ISSUE.
With this number commences the consolidated ENQUIRER and SOUTHERNER. One newspaper in this community ought to be well sustained, read by at least a thousand subscribers. If our efforts are appreciated, we will cheerfully expend them upon the good people of this section, if not, we must look for the fault in a want of public generosity as well as in inability on our part to please.

As will be seen on our first page, in an article upon the subject, a week was set apart by the late conference of the Evangelical Alliance as a "Week of Prayer throughout the world." The sermons are to commence next Sunday.

Some of our Northern exchanges pretend to find elements of discord among the Southern Rads. We hope they are correct, but our opinion is that Mr. Grant can count an cuffee for another term.

The "Hub" is in a hubbub on account of the alleged revenue frauds of Jordan, Marshall & Co. The best informed think the fraud will reach \$20,000,000.

Caleb Cushing has received the appointment as Minister to Madrid, vice Sickles, and has accepted the situation. This is rather an improvement on Daniel E.

Boston lawyers are expressing the opinion, that the recently elected female school commissioners are not eligible. How ungallant of the Boston lawyer!

Railroad strikes are the order of the day in the North, and communism is stirring it in the face.

The Stowe Merder.

Particulars of the Stowe fratricide and the subsequent hanging of Henry Stowe near Dayton Ohio on the 27th, ult., show that the two brothers, with some companions, after drinking whiskey freely, commenced shooting at a mark. John Stowe insisted on loading the rifle for each competitor, and Henry contended that each man should charge the gun for himself. Henry, however, acceded to the demand of John until it was his turn to shoot, when he demanded that the rifle be given to him to load. High words followed, in the course of which Henry charged John with dishonesty, in not putting any ball in the gun when he loaded it last. John called Henry a liar, upon which Henry shot John dead, with a revolver. Henry was immediately seized by the remainder of the party, numbering four men, dragged to a mill, from which a rope was procured, and hanged to a limb. The company then repaired to the "office" and took a drink, and upon returning, found their victim dead, then, seeming to realize, for the first time, what had happened. Those who participated fled and have not yet been captured.

The parents of the brothers Stowe, who live in Pennsylvania, were informed at once of the terrible affair, and arrived yesterday afternoon and took charge of the remains of their sons, who it seemed, were their only children.

What is the Diplomatic Correspondence on the Virginia affair, and why is it not given to the public? The pretence for its suppression on the assembling of Congress was the desire to compare the cable messages on a subject of so much importance with the originals before laying them before the country. That excuse no longer holds good. The "settlement," as Mr. Fish's miserable patch work is called, has been completed. Time enough has elapsed to place the originals of the cable messages from Madrid in the hands of our government. Now let the people see the correspondence which Mr. Fish so suspiciously suppresses.—N. Y. Herald.

Ten thousand persons in Paris followed Francis Hugo to his grave.

Suit Against an Editor.
A funny suit against an editor has been decided in the Circuit Court at Waukesha, Iowa. The Fays, proprietors of the La Belle House, at Oconomowoc, brought an action before a justice to recover \$97.04 for meals and cigars furnished Ashley D. Harger, editor of the Oconomowoc Times. Harger set up a counter claim of \$100 for "puffing" the La Belle House. Judgment was rendered for the plaintiff, and Mr. Harger appealed to a jury. The case excited much interest, Harger being well liked, and having a solemn, earnest manner of making very witty remarks. He testified that Fay would say to him, "Harger, I've got a nice dinner to-day; come in." "No, I thank you, I'm going home," Fay would prevail on him to stay, and after dinner the following colloquy: "Every thing excellent." "Desert all right?" "Excellent." "Ice cream all right?" "Delicious, Mr. Fay." Very well, remember this in your paper next week." In return for dinners and cigars, Harger says that he told a great many lies—editorially—worth more than a thousand dollars. He would never have presented a bill for lies had not Fay fallen out with him and wanted pay for the dinners. Harger pleaded his own case, and the jury found a verdict for him, which threw the cost upon the hotel-keeper.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR RENT.
THE BRICK STORE HOUSE THIRD door from the Court House. Apply to M. WEDDELL & CO. Jan. 2, 1874.

FOR RENT.
THE STORE HOUSE FORMERLY occupied by R. B. Alsop. Apply to M. WEDDELL & CO. Jan. 2, 1874.

RALEIGH FEMALE SEMINARY.
RALEIGH, N. C.
F. P. HOBGOOD, A. M., Principal.
W. REINHART, (U. Va.) Asso.
D. L. VON MEYERHOFF, of Vienna, Music Dept.

THE SPRING TERM WILL OPEN ON MONDAY, JAN. 12, 1874.
For particulars apply for Circulars and Catalogue.

NOTICE.
Dissolution of Copartnership.
THE Copartnership heretofore existing under the firm name of Farrar, Phippen & Co., terminates to-day by limitation and mutual consent. The business of the concern will be settled by O. C. Farrar and Wm. M. Phippen.
O. C. FARRAR,
WM. M. PHIPPEN,
F. S. ROYSTER.

Jan. 1, 1874.

COPARTNERSHIP.
THE undersigned beg leave to inform the public that they have this day entered into a copartnership for conducting the business of general merchandise under the firm name of O. C. FARRAR & CO. They can be found at their old stand, where they will be glad to serve their friends as heretofore. With thanks for past obligations they respectfully solicit a continuance of the same.
O. C. FARRAR,
F. S. ROYSTER.

Jan. 1st, 1874.

FOR SALE.
A COMPLETE SET OF
BLANCHARD'S
improved machinery for making
Plow Handles,
capacity of which is 500 per day, also one 20 H. Power Engine and Boiler, Saw Mill, Shelling, Pulleys and Hangers, Wood Turning Lathe, V. & C. Machine, Machine, Belling, &c., or in other words a
First Class Plow Handle Factory,

will sell as a whole or by detail, Address,
F. H. RAHM,
Box 907, Richmond, Va.
Jan. 2, 1874.

ADAMS' HOTEL.
Main Street,
TARBORO, N. C.

O. F. ADAMS, Proprietor.

THIS HOTEL IS NOW OPEN FOR THE accommodation of the traveling public, and no pains will be spared to make all who stop at this Hotel comfortable and pleasant. The tables will be supplied with the best market foods, and served up by experienced hands. The proprietor only ask a trial, for the public to be convinced.

Jan. 2, 1874.

O. F. ADAMS, Proprietor.

TARBORO' MALE ACADEMY.
THE Spring Session will open January 5th, 1874.
Pupils prepared for business or entrance into any of our colleges.
For further particulars, refer to the Principal, F. S. WILKINSON.
Dec. 20, 1873.

Dec. 20, 1873.

FOR RENT.
THE BRICK STORE HOUSE, THIRD door from the Court House. Also a good dwelling house.
Apply to M. WEDDELL & CO. Tarboro' Dec. 13, 1873.

Dec. 13, 1873.

C. Jordan & Son,
WHOLESALE
CONFECTIONERS,
AND DEALERS IN
Foreign and Domestic Fruits, Nuts, Pickles, Preserves, Brandy, Fruit, Sars, Canned Goods, Toys, Fire Works, &c., &c.,
Store, No. 172 Main Street, Factory, 52 Church Street,
Norfolk, Va.
Sept. 6, 1873.

Sept. 6, 1873.

FOR SALE OR RENT.
I OFFER FOR SALE OR RENT MY Residence in the town of Tarboro', situated on St. James Street, opposite the Episcopal Church. It is located in the most desirable neighborhood of the place, has been but recently constructed, of the best

HEART LUMBER
and has upon the premises a fine WELL OF WATER, with all necessary out houses. For further particulars apply to WM. BIGGS.
on Green Williams Dec. 6, 1873.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR RENT.
The Old Bank Building.
FOR particulars, apply to the undersigned.
Dec. 20, 1873. GEO. HOWARD.

Select Boarding and Day School.

Hillsboro', N. C.
THE MISSES NASH AND MISS KOLLOCK will resume the exercises of their school on Friday, February 6th, 1874.
Circulars forwarded on application.
Dec. 20, 1873.

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